

Santa Ana Unified School District  
1601 E. Chestnut Avenue  
Santa Ana, California 92701

MINUTES

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING  
BOARD OF EDUCATION

August 26, 2010

CALL TO ORDER

The Board Retreat was called to order at 7:45 a.m. by Board President Yamagata-Noji. Other members in attendance were Mr. Richardson, Mr. Hernández, Mr. Palacio, and Mr. Reyna. Mr. Hernandez left the meeting at 8:30 a.m. to conduct official business and returned at 9:30 a.m.

Cabinet members present were Ms. Russo, Dr. Olsky, Mr. Bishop, Mr. Lopez, Mr. Mendez, Ms. Miller, Ms. Lohnes, and Mr. Dixon.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Dr. Yamagata-Noji.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Board President Yamagata-Noji asked those wishing to address the Board in matters pertaining to Closed Session to step to the podium.

There were no individuals wishing to comment at this time.

MEETING

Dr. Yamagata-Noji opened the annual Board Retreat stating the purpose of the meeting was to self reflect, review Districtwide accomplishments, examine improvements, and evaluate SAUSD's biggest challenges. This will allow Board and Cabinet to prioritize actions for the 2010-11 school year.

PRESENTATIONS

Board Self-Reflection

The Board discussed the operation of meetings in reference to Board Bylaws, performance, improvements, communication, organization, and participation as Board members.

Looking Back and Looking Forward

The Board and Cabinet referred to their assignments, where they each identified what they believed were the District's points of excellence, areas most improved, and biggest challenges in the 2009-10 school year. Discussion ensued as Dr. Olsky wrote Board member's responses on easel pads. Cabinet followed with their input. The outcomes would continue to be assessed and would return to a Board meeting with priorities determined. The outcomes would eventually reflect on the revised Board Goals.

Review of District Goals/Proposed Goals

The Board reviewed goals and provided input and suggestions. Administration will make those changes and bring them to a Board meeting for review and action.

Community Needs and District Issues

Dr. Olsky reviewed a handout containing information on the needs assessments for two initiatives, the Santa Ana Building Healthy Communities and Promise Neighborhoods. They are similar in nature, but have differences. The document was reviewed and suggestions were made regarding the needs and goals of the District as it relates to student and community needs. Discussion ensued regarding safety and access to District facilities. Dr. Yamagata-Noji asked for regular updates to the Board.

Chief Valentin next provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding issues in the areas of drugs and gangs. The Board has asked that administration take additional steps in the areas of student and parent education as well as seeking assistance from our local legislators. In closing, Chief Valentin stated that for the opening of schools next week, the Santa Ana Police department would be working with District Police around Santa Ana schools to assure safety for our students.

Persistently Low-Achieving Schools

This item was removed from the Agenda and will be presented at the next Board meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 10:24 a.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Tuesday, September 14, 2010, at 6:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

Jane A. Russo \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary

Santa Ana Board of Education